

By Spc. Al Barrus 122nd MPAD

Capt. Steve Lindsley of 112th Military Police Battalion makes a plaster cast to serve as a prosthetic mold on Haydar Kharalla's stump. Kharalla lost his leg during a combat operation while serving as an interpreter for the 82nd Airborne Division in 2003.

## Troops Help Terp Get a Leg Up

By Spc. Al Barrus  
122nd MPAD

INTERNATIONAL ZONE, Baghdad - Interpreters are essential to Operation Iraqi Freedom, and in the combat zone that is Baghdad, they take the same risks, sometimes more, than the Soldiers they work alongside.

This is a fact that is all too true for Haydar Kharalla who now walks with crutches. He was an interpreter and the voice for the Soldiers in Company C, 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division, who called him "Homeboy."

He is now missing his right leg below the knee.

His story of loss took place in the Abu Dashir neighborhood in southern Baghdad on Aug. 6, 2003.

"Back then, there was a curfew at 11 p.m., and we would go on missions at that time," Kharalla recalled. "There was a car driving around past the curfew, so the Soldiers investigated and got out to speak. Then all the sudden we were taking fire, and the Soldiers returned some."

In the midst of the battle, a bullet struck his leg, and he felt a sting. He ducked down next to his humvee as a barrage of bullets and some rocket-propelled grenades pummeled the convoy.

His friend, a paratrooper-

er, lay out in the open. Kharalla took grip of the trooper's body armor to pull him to safety. While blood poured heavily out of his right leg, Kharalla found there was no life in his friend's body. It was then he noticed that another bullet had pierced his left leg. The next thing he knew, he was in a humvee on the way to a hospital.

Army medical personnel salvaged Kharalla's left leg, which now bears a scar. The right leg was infected by gangrene, and amputation below the knee was necessary.

After a month in the hospital, he was able to return home, but unable to

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## Gunslingers Assist Iraqi Practitioners

By Sgt. Dan Purcell  
122nd MPAD

CAMP TAJI, Baghdad-In an on going effort to assist Iraqi doctors and help shed new light on medical procedures and practices, one Soldier at Camp Gunslinger has taken the initiative to gather donated medical books and deliver them to local clinics in the Sha'ab District of Baghdad.

1st Lt. Isaac Shields, medical platoon leader, 3rd Battalion, 153rd Infantry Regiment, 39th Brigade Combat Team 1st Cavalry Division has collected thousands of medical reference books from doctors around the United States and is passing this knowledge along.

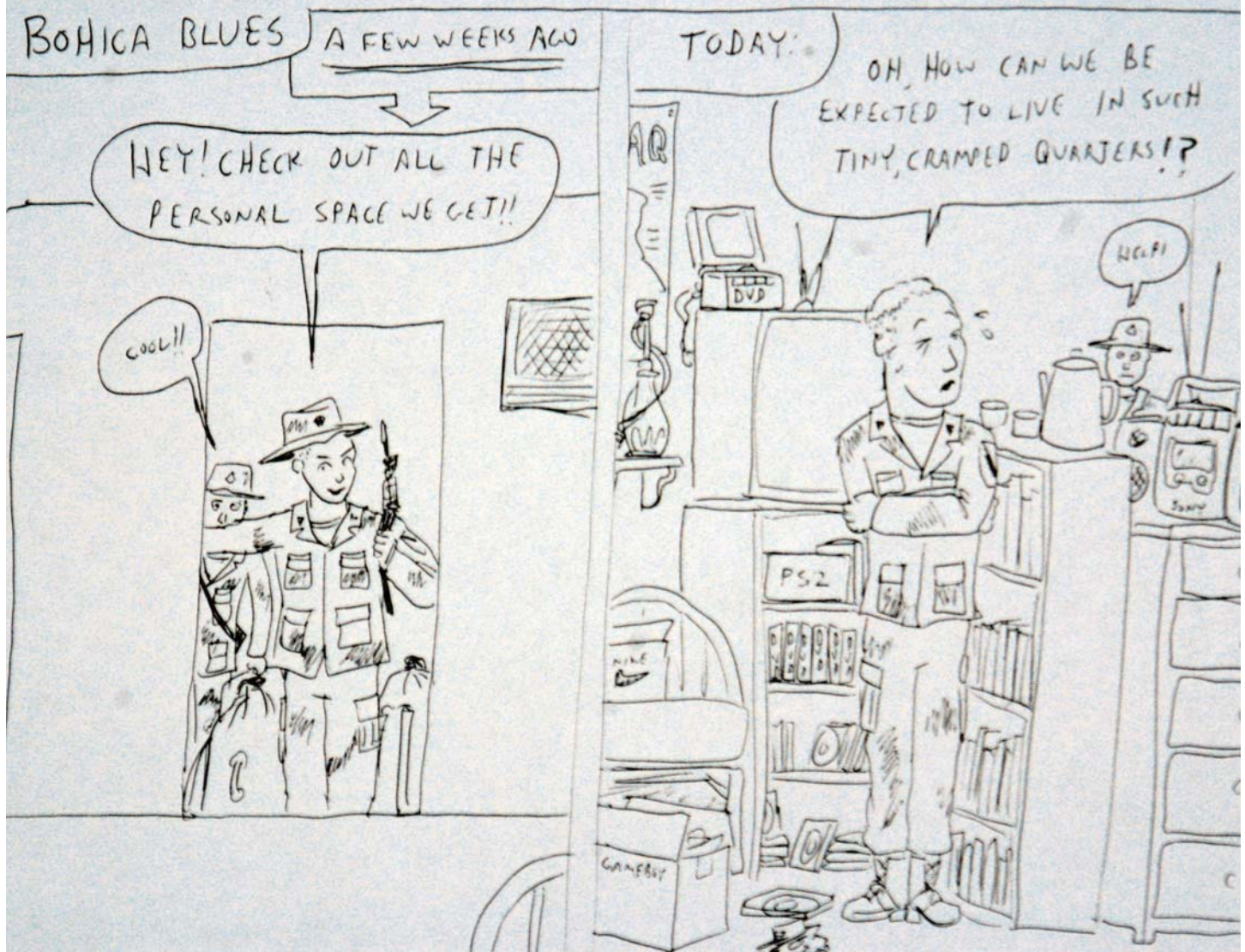
"Our battalion command likes to see that we have a strong relationship with the community," Shields, a native of Starkville, Mississippi said. "To develop this we like to visit the clinics in our local area who are, basically, doing the very best they can to help their people and we try to find out how we can best facilitate their efforts as much as possible."

To do this, periodically Shields will go to the clinics with the expressed intent of addressing any problems and concerns the doctors might have and to make sure they are not being threatened by anti-Iraqi forces (AIF).

During one such inspec-

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By Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant, 411 Engineer Battalion

Bohica Blues cartoons are drawn by Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant, of the 411th Engineer Battalion from Boise, Idaho. His battalion is attached to the 1st Cavalry Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Grant says he draws cartoons as a way to present his, and his Soldiers' opinions to the world. His work is also displayed at the the Antelope (Engineer) dining facility on Camp Al-Tahreer.

## Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

**How much do I owe you?**  
**kam al-Hisaab**

### Saturday

High: 91  
Low: 68



### Sunday

High: 89  
Low: 66



### Monday

High: 92  
Low: 66



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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## News Notes

### Man Trying to Kill Mouse Shoots Girlfriend

CONFLUENCE, Pa. (AP) - A man missed a mouse he was trying to shoot with a small-caliber handgun and wounded his girlfriend instead, state police said. Donald Rugg, 43, of Confluence, was trying to kill the rodent with a .22-caliber handgun when his girlfriend, Cathy Jo Harris, 38, apparently went into the line of fire and was hit in the arm early Tuesday morning, state police said. She was taken to Somerset Hospital where she was listed in fair condition Tuesday, said hospital spokesman Greg Chiappelli. State police said they won't charge Rugg, but advised against people shooting firearms inside.

### New Weight-Loss Device to Be Tested

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) - Portland has been chosen as one of three nationwide sites where doctors will begin testing new weight-loss surgery technology. Doctors at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital & Medical Center plan to begin implanting a pacemaker-like device in six to eight test patients. The device will fire electronic pulses tricking the body into feeling full after eating a small amount of food, followed by gradual weight loss. If tests prove successful, MetaCure, the device's Dutch maker, plans to ask the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for approval to conduct a longer-term study.

## On the Edge of the Wi-Fi Wilderness

DALLAS, Texas (*The Dallas Morning News*) - Wi-Fi hasn't taken over Dallas the way Dave Livingston had hoped, but he's happy to see the city slowly embracing the technology.

Nathan Hunsinger / DMN Dave Livingston, DFW Wireless Users Group president, says a downtown Wi-Fi network would need financial backing.

Mr. Livingston heads the DFW Wireless Users Group, an organization of forward-thinking technophiles who gather monthly to discuss the latest in wireless technology.

The group has essentially dropped the idea of blanketing downtown Dallas with free Wi-Fi Internet

access, a concept that wireless users groups in other cities have embraced. But Mr. Livingston and his cohorts are already looking ahead to upcoming wireless technologies.

"It's very possible, but people have to get behind it," he says.

Although a blanket Wi-Fi network in the Dallas area remains a dream, Mr. Livingston has been impressed with the number of pay and free hotspots he has seen pop up around town.

"A lot of random places that you wouldn't expect to have Wi-Fi have them," he says.

That's why his group is looking at the next wave of technology.



*Dallas Morning News*

Dave Livingston, DFW Wireless Users Group president, says a downtown Wi-Fi network would need financial backing. The group is moving its explorations past Wi-Fi because it expects that other forms of wireless data will eventually supercede the current standard.

## Selling Old Stuff Gives New Things for Needy

HOUSTON, Texas (*Houston Chronicle*) - While donating some appliances from the townhouse he is remodeling, Steve Beres looked around the Houston Habitat Building Supply Outlet on Thursday afternoon and spotted some sinks and toilets to buy.

With all the expenses of moving here from Montana, he was pleased with the prices - about half what he expected to pay.

"You save," he said. "But the bigger story is you are doing something worthwhile."

Profits from outlet sales benefit Houston Habitat for Humanity and the families who move into the homes. In the past 16 years, more than 475 new Habitat houses have been built in the city.

The outlet, at 6161 South



*Houston Chronicle*

Pierre and Sherri Charrin look over the selection Thursday at Houston's new Habitat Building Supply Outlet.

Loop east (just west of the Gulfgate retail center), has set its official grand opening for 9 a.m. Saturday.

Much of the inventory - both new and used - is donated by Houston Habitat spon-

sors and donors. Some items, such as kitchen cabinets, are purchased by Habitat for resale in the outlet, said Alan Priesman, outlet executive director.

He said he doesn't know from one day to the next what might be available at the store, which has been operating in training mode for a few months.

The store is one of about 100 operated by Habitat around the nation, he said. The first opened about 16 years ago in Austin. Habitat organizations in Pasadena and northwest Harris County also have resale stores.

Professional home improvement specialists and Habitat volunteers will be in the outlet Saturday to answer questions and conduct demonstrations, Priesman said.



## Cards Clock Clemens in Game 7

ST. LOUIS (AP) - The rollicking sea of red certainly helped.

More than the home-town hootin' and hollerin', what really sent the St. Louis Cardinals charging into the World Series were the booming bats of MVP Albert Pujols and Scott Rolen.

The Cardinals erupted to startle the Houston Astros 5-2 Thursday night in Game 7 of the NL championship series.

"It's every little boy's dream. I'm glad to have won the MVP, but that trophy is going to stay right in this room because everybody here is MVP," Pujols said.

In the only best-of-seven LCS matchup where the home team won each time, the Cardinals broke through in the sixth inning. Surrounded by a swell of

fans wearing red from head to toe, St. Louis took the lead in a span of only two pitches.

"There's no doubt that the enthusiasm of the crowds in both places was a factor in the games. Adrenaline starts kicking in and you get stronger and faster," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said.

After posting 105 wins and running away with the NL Central, the Cardinals advanced to their first World Series under La Russa, and first overall since 1987.

For the Astros, it was devastating. They have never reached the World Series since their expansion season of 1962, the same year Clemens was born.

When it was over, the teams did not shake hands on the field, as St. Louis and Los Angeles did at Dodger



AP

NLCS most valuable player Albert Pujols celebrates his team's 5-2 victory over the Astros to win Game 7 and the NL championship series.

Stadium after the first round. La Russa, who had previously been 0-3 in the NLCS, waved across the diamond at Houston manager Phil Garner.

## 20K to Take Part in Army Ten-Miler

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) - The 20th annual Army Ten-Miler, America's largest 10-mile road race, begins at 8 a.m. Oct. 24 at the Pentagon.

Registration increased to 20,293 runners this year with both military and civilian participants coming from across the country and the world to be a part of the event.

The U.S. Army Golden Knights, the Army's premier skydiving team, will jump at 7:15 a.m. Sunday before the start of the Army Ten-Miler. Following their skydive, the Golden Knights will be on site to motivate runners and interact with spectators.

Key points about this year's Army Ten-Miler:

-6,870 teams

-Runners from 49 of 50 states are registered, along with the District of Columbia



Army News

Runners begin the U.S. Army Ten-Miler in 2002.

-International participants - 122 runners from 23 countries  
-International teams from Italy, Canada, Germany, Honduras, Republic of Korea  
-91 percent of runners registered online

-58 percent are male and 42 percent are female

-76 percent are from the greater Washington, DC region

-More than 1,500 Soldiers and

volunteers support the race.

Race officials recommend that both runners and spectators use the Metro to access the race. The Metro will open at 6 a.m. on Sunday morning.

The Army Ten-Miler is produced by the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and sponsored by the Association of the U.S. Army.

### In Brief

#### Love Pleads Guilty in New York Court

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Rocker Courtney Love pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct on Wednesday for hitting a man in the head with a microphone stand at a New York City nightclub. Love, 40, entered the plea in an agreement that dropped the more serious charges of assault and reckless endangerment in the March 18 incident, which took place hours after the singer had bared her breasts on comedian David Letterman's CBS "Late Show." She was ordered to pay \$2,236 in restitution to the man she hit in the head during a performance at the East Village club.

#### Ackerman to Step Down as WNBA President

(USA Today) - After eight seasons as president of the WNBA, Val Ackerman is stepping down. She will head a search committee to name her replacement. "I want to spend more time with my daughters," Ackerman told USA TODAY. "I've been with this for really the past decade. It's been a privilege to be part of things, but it's been grueling. My daughters are almost 12 (Emily) and almost 10 (Sally) and I just felt strongly that now was the time to make time for them in a way that hasn't been possible." Ackerman has been the WNBA's only president.



By Sgt. Dan Purcell, 122nd MPAD

1st Lt. Isaac Shields, a medical platoon leader with 3rd Battalion, 153rd Infantry Regiment, attempts to make a rubber chicken for a local Iraqi boy outside a medical clinic.

## Helping Iraqi Docs

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tion, Shields, who likens his job in the military to that of a hospital administrator, noted that many of the clinics and hospital lacked reference libraries.

This projected started when I began going out to the clinics and asking what could I do to help. A lot of the doctors would tell me that under Saddam's reign they weren't allowed to read western medical literature, even though they knew that's where the premiere research was taking place, but Saddam wouldn't let them have it," Shields recounted.

Citing budgetary constraints and the difficulties in providing doctors with everything they need, Shields relies on creativity and imagination to help pick up the shortfalls.

"I decided to call my wife, Angela, and ask her to take all my medical books I wasn't using anymore, box

them up and ship them over here. I then e-mailed a couple of my buddies and asked them if they had any medical journals or textbooks they weren't using because the doctors here could really use them," Shields explained.

What started as a personal donation snowballed into something bigger.

"My friends in turn e-mailed their buddies who e-mailed others, and before long we had a bunch of people in the United States who had formed kind of a coalition of several different medical schools and states who got involved collecting medical books and sending them to our battalion so we could give them to the Iraqi physicians," said Shields. "We have collected several thousand books up to this point, to include journals, audio and visual tapes, and all kinds of medical reference literature...and they keep coming in."

## Troops Help Iraqi Interpreter Recover Life

**Continued from Page 1**

carry his son who is now 16 months old. Kharalla believes he can walk again with the help of a prosthetic leg, but had been unable to find help.

Over a year of asking his employer, Titan Corp., for assistance, as well as many other organizations, Kharalla began to lose hope of ever getting a new leg.

T. Christian Miller, a staff writer for the Los Angeles Times, told Kharalla's story of courage and hardship, as well as his frustrations in trying to get a prosthetic leg. Kharalla began to worry that his hope to walk again was a lost cause. Then his story ran in "Stars and Stripes" where

the local troops could read about it.

"I read the article and thought 'Why can't we help this guy?'" said Capt. Rob Edwards, an intelligence officer for 112th Military Police Battalion who helps make prosthetics for disabled Iraqis. "We just needed to find this guy and bring him here [to the International Zone]."

With the help of 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 5th Brigade Combat Team of the 1st Cavalry Division, Kharalla got a ride from his home in southern Baghdad to the division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team headquarters downtown.

Edwards helps out in

making the prosthetics alongside Sgt. Chris Cummings of the 443rd Civil Affairs Battalion, who is a prosthetic and orthodontics technician as a civilian, and Capt. Steve Lindsley, of the 112th MPs, who is a prosthetic practitioner when not in uniform.

"After I read the article I showed it to Capt. Lindsley and he said to bring him on in," Edwards added. "We are helping out anyone who needs a new leg or arm, and after what [Kharalla] did for our Soldiers, we put him at the top of the list."

Kharalla made his first of many appointments Oct. 13. Lindsley made a mold of his stump. In a few

weeks time, he will have his new leg, after which he can start physical therapy to walk with two feet once again.

"I think this new leg will help recover a part of my life," Kharalla said. "It can't be anything like the real leg, but something is better than nothing."

Now that he's finally getting his wish fulfilled, Kharalla said can never repay what the U.S. Army has done for him.

"Soldiers are always thanking me for my sacrifice, but I will always be in debt to America," he said. "You freed me and my country; you liberated us, and for that I will always be thankful."